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X.—*Notes of a Journey in Asia Minor, in 1837.* By W. J. HAMILTON, Esq. Read 26th March, 1838.

A SHORT account of my journey in Asia Minor, in 1836, extracted from private letters, having been read before the Royal Geographical Society, I beg leave to submit for the same purpose the following sketch of that which I made through the more southern portion of that country in 1837.

I left Constantinople on the 24th of May, and again crossing the Propontis, landed at Modányah; from thence I proceeded in a S.S.W. direction to Abulliont, situated on a small island near the north-eastern extremity of the lake of the same name, and connected with a narrow peninsula by a long wooden bridge. I copied a few inscriptions in the ruined walls of the town, ascertained the position of the theatre, and observed the foundations of several small buildings outside the town, which were probably the tombs. Although no inscriptions mention its name, there can be no doubt that the modern town of Abulliont stands upon the site of Apollonia ad Rhyndacum. On one of the small islands near it are the remains of considerable massive walls of Hellenic construction. From hence I proceeded four hours along the northern shore of the lake to U'lúbád, where are the ruins of a large Byzantine fortress, and where the Rhyndacus, which I crossed by a long wooden bridge, flows out of the lake. Two hours more, nearly W. by N., over low marshy ground, brought me to Mikhálich,* a large and straggling town of 1500 houses picturesquely situated on some low hills near the junction of the Rhyndacus and the Macestus.

May 26th.—Mikhálich to Aïdinjik,† ten hours in a westerly direction, over an uninteresting undulating country. Three hours before we reached Aïdinjik I came in sight of the lake of Miletopolis, now called Mániyás Gól,‡ situated in a low flat grassy country to the south: near Aïdinjik the scenery improves, and the ground is highly cultivated. The town is full of ancient fragments brought from the ruins of Cyzicus, called Balkís§ by the Turks, and the

* Commonly pronounced Múhalich.—A. For all the notes not marked A. the Foreign Secretary is responsible. The orthography of the names of places is according to the standard adopted by the Society.—See vol. vii., p. 245.

† Little Moonshine. Jihán-numá, p. 669.

‡ Mániyás gól (pronounced ghieul. according to the French orthography), not mentioned in the Jihán-numá (Speculum Mundi), p. 656.

§ Balkís-seráir. It is known, says Kátib Chelebf Hájí Khalífah (Jihán-numá, p. 669) by the name of Tamáshálik (Showplace, because Suleimán Páshá there *shewed* the shores of Europe to O'rkán, and urged him to cross over and conquer them) and Balkís Seráiyí, i. e. "The Palace of Balkís," the queen of Sheba.

Colonel Leake observes that *Bal* is often used in the names of places to signify *old*, being, perhaps, a corruption from *παλαιος*. Kis is evidently the first syllable of *Cyzicus*, pronounced as in Greek with a K; Balkís would therefore mean Old Cyzicus.—A.

Routes in
ASIA MINOR,
by
W. I. Hamilton, Esq^r
in 1836.





Aghá showed me several sepulchral monuments or votive tablets with inscriptions, all from the same place, which he was anxious I should purchase, but they were not sufficiently interesting to tempt me.

May 27th.—Visited Artáki* and Cyzicus. At the former place the plague was raging violently, so that I did not stop there long. I visited the harbour, where are the remains of an ancient mole, and returned to the ruins of Cyzicus, visiting Cape Mélanos in the way. The ruins on the Cape do not appear to be of very great antiquity, and are certainly neither Hellenic nor Cyclopean. At Balkís I pitched my tent under the walls of the town, near a beautiful fountain under some fine plane trees, and near what was probably the western harbour, but which, being choked up with sand, is now a mere swamp. The whole site of Cyzicus is so covered with gardens, or overgrown with underwood and a luxuriant vegetation, that it is extremely difficult to make out anything distinctly. I discovered the remains of a very large theatre, nearly overgrown with ilex and other shrubs, besides the amphitheatre or naumachia mentioned by former travellers, and several other large buildings, but from their ruined state it is impossible even to guess at their original destination. On the whole, considering the great renown of the architects of Cyzicus, I was much disappointed at the poor and meagre style of all its buildings, which do not at all bear the solid and imposing character of Hellenic masonry. No doubt there is much buried under the soil, the constant accumulation of which is greater here than usual, in consequence of the nature of the rock on which the town was built, which is a soft and rapidly decomposing granite, which, from the quantity of feldspar contained in it, and the smallness of its grains of quartz, produces a fine rich soil, and with it a luxuriant vegetation. To the eastward of the town, and partly on the narrow isthmus, the large and closed harbour may be traced, as well as a narrow passage or canal of solid masonry, by which it communicated with the sea, and which was probably the part which, as we learn from Strabo, could be closed. The whole country between Balkís and Artáki is covered with flourishing vineyards, and the wine of Artáki is much esteemed, even at Constantinople.

May 28th.—After again exploring the ruins, and waiting until I could obtain a meridional observation, which places Cyzicus in latitude 40° 23' N., I returned to Aidinjik, and on the following day started for the purpose of tracing, if possible, the course of

* "Ἐχὺ πηγὴν, says Meletius (Geogr. iii. p. 130) ἡ ὁποία ποτὰλαι ἐκαλεῖτο τοῦ "Ἐρωτος, καὶ ἰτίτρα πηγὴ περὶ αὐτὴν εἶναι, Ἀρτακία λεγομένη. "It has a spring which was anciently called the 'Fountain of Love;' and there is another spring near it, called 'Artakia,' named perhaps from Ariáki ('Ἀρτάκη, p. 131), formerly a city, now a country town (καμώπολις), near to which runs the river Priapus." This is the ἔρως εὐδιδόχου Ἀρτάκη of Strabo, xii. p. 576.

the Şuşigherlí-sú* or Macestus, which, as I learnt at Aïdinjik, takes its rise in a large lake near Simáwul.†

Three hours from Aïdinjik, while travelling round the western end of the lake of Miletopolis, I passed through an interesting settlement of Cossacks,‡ who have been there ever since the capture of Ismá'il, in 1770,§ and preferring Turkish to Russian rule, have been protected and encouraged by the Turks. They live principally on fish, which they catch in great quantities in the lake, and the neighbouring hills and low plains afford excellent pasture for their flocks: they pay no taxes to the Turkish government, choose their own chief, and have a small church. Their fair Teutonic looking features contrasted strongly with the dark complexion of the Turks, and the long embroidered white smock-frock of the peasants first called my attention to the peculiarity of their appearance. The plague had lately broken out among them, and as we left the village, our road led us through an enclosed space, in which the sick were placed in small huts made of rushes; their relations brought them provisions, leaving them on the ground near the hut, and carefully avoiding all contact. In the evening we reached, after crossing several streams flowing into the lake from the wooded hills to the south, the small village of Meulvíkói.|| eight hours from Aïdinjik.

May 30th.—An hour's ride E.S.E. brought me to the village of Mániyas,¶ which lies a little way off the high-road towards the south. Here I found abundant traces of an ancient site, and several inscriptions, some of which are built into the walls of a Byzantine fortress, which now occupies the hill, once the Acropolis of the ancient town. Part of this wall is entirely composed of ancient blocks and pedestals, altars, &c. Whole courses in some of the towers consist of columns laid transversely across the wall, whilst others are formed of pedestals, some of which probably have inscriptions. I am inclined to think that these ruins mark the site not of Miletopolis, but of Pœmanenus,** which was

* Properly Şú-şighir-lí súi, i. e. Buffalo-water. Şú-şighir or şú-şighír, water-ox is the Turkish word for buffalo.

† Simál or Simán is mentioned in the Jihán-numá (p. 632) as one of the districts of Kermián (Phrygia Epictetus). In the text it is spelt Simáu; in the map Simán or Simál; w, n, and l, when carelessly formed, nearly resemble each other in the Arabic character. Simáu might be a corruption of Synnao, as the modern Greeks would pronounce Synnaus.

‡ Kázáklí; nine miles from Aïdinjik.

§ Hammer, *Gesch. des Osmanischen Reichs* viii. 363.

|| Mevleví-kói, five hours from the Kázaks, twenty-four miles from Aïdinjik. Kói is pronounced as *kieu* in the French orthography.

¶ Mániyas, J. n. p. 656, three miles from Mevleví-kói, twenty-seven from Aïdinjik.

** Pœmanénus is the termination given by Stephanus Byzantinus; the vowels are ascertained by the coin (Sestini Lett. Num. iv. 76). Phemenio is the ablative of Pœmenion, a corrupt contraction of Pœmanénus introduced in the times of the Lower Empire. (Cramer's Asia Minor, i. 56-58.)

afterwards called Phemenio. This name, leaving out the first syllable, greatly resembles the modern name, which, combined with the remarkable position of the Acropolis, so completely answering to that of *πολίχιον ἐρυμνότατον*, as described by Anna Comnena (p. 440), leaves in my opinion no doubt upon the subject. From thence I proceeded four hours S.S.E. to Sú-şighir-lí, descending into the valley through which the Macestus flows, by some fine wooded hills. Soon after leaving Sú-şighir-lí, we reached the banks of the river, and proceeded several miles up it, through very beautiful woodland scenery, to a place called Kayá Kapú, or Tash-kapú, Rock-gate,* or pass of the rock, where the road winds along a narrow path cut on the steep side of the rock overhanging the deep torrent below. A ruined castle on the height above defends the pass, which, from the remains of a massive bridge over the river, appears to have been once of considerable importance. The rich meadows and valleys which we crossed, leaving the river on the left, were covered in many places with the white Iris in full flower. About three hours from Sú-şighir-lí I reached the small village of Ildiz,† where I halted for the night.

June 1.—Ildiz to Kefsút‡ or Kespít, four hours S. by W. Leaving the Macestus winding through a broken hilly country to the left, our road led us across a range of high and partly wooded hills by a steep and winding path. Before reaching Kepsúd, I crossed the Sú-şighir-lí Sú again, which flows from W. by S. to E. by N., and is joined immediately above the town by another river from the S.E., the sources of which are said to be at a place called Bölát,§ twelve hours off, nearly S.E. At Kepsúd, which is in latitude 39° 39' 0" N., I found a great number of inscriptions and other remains of antiquity scattered about the town; but none of the inscriptions throw any light upon the ancient name of the place, nor could I learn from the natives whence they had been brought; but its situation, in a rich plain at the confluence of two streams, renders it not unlikely that it is the site of some ancient town. Here I was again told that the main branch of the river rose near Símáwul, and was better known by the name of Símáwul Sú. From Kefsút [Kepsúd] I ascended the valley of the Macestus through a hilly country, for seven hours, nearly S., with the river on my right as far as Bigaditza,|| situated

* I believe this to be the Demir Kapou in Wheeler's Narrative.

† Or Yildiz, *i. e.* Star, from Sú-şighir-lí, nine miles.

‡ The Turks are so vague in their pronunciation, that I have sometimes heard the same place pronounced quite differently by different persons.—A.

Kepsúd, (Jih. numá, p. 660,) pronounced *Kepsút*.

§ Bölát. The Turks always sound the final medials as tenues, or, in other words, convert final *sonants* into *surds*.

|| Bighádij (Jehán-numá, p. 661), though spelt thus, is pronounced Bighadich, with a strong emphasis on the *ich*. *Μαργαδίτζα* in Greek.

in a fine plain, and with some insignificant remains of a castle of the middle ages near it. From Bigaditza to Singerlí, four hours, nearly S. Here I again crossed the river, flowing from the E., and continued up its bed, eighteen hours, almost due E., to Símáwul. Some of the scenery up this valley is very beautiful; the plains and banks of the river, and particularly such parts as are subject to frequent inundations, being covered with magnificent plane trees.

Three hours E. from Singerlí, I visited some hot springs, by the Turks called I'ljah,* a little way out of the road, which rise in several places out of an igneous rock, a grey porphyritic trachyte. Their heat is nearly that of boiling water, and they are heard distinctly bubbling up under the rocky and treacherous crust. The water deposits remarkably white stalactitic and stalagmitic concretions, and is accompanied by a strong sulphureous smell. The united springs form a stream large enough to turn several mills, and near the road, about a mile from the sources, the water is still hot enough to form a hot bath, much used by the natives.

From Símáwul I made an excursion to the lake which forms the sources of the Símáwul Şú. It is about five miles N.W. from the town, and the river flows at once from the western extremity of the lake a considerable stream. This lake is supplied by sub-aqueous springs, for no river of any consequence flows into it. The many small streams which I had crossed in my way to Símáwul flowing down from the high range of Demirjî, on the S., are all absorbed by irrigation before they reach the lake. Near the western end of this lake is a small insulated hill, round which are considerable remains of wall, but too much ruined to ascertain their age; and near it, as well as in the neighbouring village of Kilíseh kôî,† are many large marble blocks and fragments of broken columns, friezes, &c., and one or two imperfect inscriptions. I have no doubt that this hill was the Acropolis of the Phrygian Ancyra. In a Greek inscription which I found in the wall of the mosque at Símáwul the word Synaus may be read. That some ancient town existed in this neighbourhood is proved by the number of marble blocks and other fragments, which we saw in every village in the plain.

From Símáwul I crossed a high range of mountains, the eastern prolongation of the range of Demirjî, between four and five thousand feet above the sea, which has formed in former ages the northern boundary of the vast lacustrine deposit of the tertiary

* I'ljah, "hot-springs" in Turkish.

† Kilíseh kôî, church-village; Kilisyá, as it is most correctly spelt, is from the Greek "ecclesia."

period which covers a large portion of Asia Minor; and in twelve hours, nearly S., we reached Selentí.* The river on which this town stands is not the Hermus, as it is called in all the maps, but the Aíneh-chái,† which does not join the Hermus until twenty or twenty-five miles lower down.

June 8th.—Selentí to Kúláh,‡ eight hours, nearly S.W. After leaving the valley of the Aíneh-chái, and crossing the mountains between it and the Hermus, which are chiefly horizontal beds of lacustrine and cretaceous marl, I entered the district of the Kata-kekaumené, and remained some time at Kúláh, examining the remarkable volcanic phenomena which this district presents, and making excursions to ascertain the extent of the various streams of lava which have flowed from the three modern cones or craters, and which correspond with the three pits described by Strabo.§

In one of my excursions I discovered the ruins of Saittæ, a celebrated town of Lydia, and of which a few well preserved coins are in existence. These remains are situated about nine hours N.N.W. of Kúláh. They consist of a stadium, one end of which is nearly perfect, between two low hills; but the northern end, which extends into the plain, is quite destroyed: numerous tombs and sepulchres in the hills around, and many massive remains of temples and other public buildings. Large broken columns lie about the fields and plain in all directions, and prove the magnificence of its ancient decorations. The modern name of these ruins is Sidàs ka'léh,|| which is probably a corruption of Sitas, the accusative of Sitæ, the name by which this town is mentioned in the Synecdemus of Hierocles. In a neighbouring village I found a few inscriptions, but none which contained the name of the ancient city, nor could I procure any coins there, although at Kúláh I had obtained several of Saittæ.

The height of Kúláh above the sea is considerable, perhaps 2250 feet, as the average height of the barometer whilst I was there was 27.680 inches; attached therm. 76°, and detached therm. 78° Fahr. The height of the volcanic cone is 530 feet above the town. It is situated in latitude 38° 31' N.

June 17.—I left Kúláh for Afyún-Kará-hişâr,¶ with the intention of finding a middle road between the two I had already travelled, and to the north of the Mæander. It proved, however, a more difficult task than I had expected; for the country

* Selentí or Selendí, J. n. p. 632, 633.

† Mirror-stream, or rather Aíneh River, *i. e.* the river from Aíneh.

‡ Kúláh, J. n. p. 633.

§ Strabo, xiii. p. 628. Δείκνυνται δὲ καὶ βόθροι τρεῖς οὓς φύσαι καλοῦσιν, ὅσον τιτταράκοντα ἀλλήλων δισπῶντες σταδίου. "Three pits are shown, which they call 'bellows,' distant from each other about forty stadia (five miles)."—A.

|| Sitàs ka'l'eh, Sitàs Castle. This T is pronounced D by the Turks.

¶ Opium-black-castle. Karah Hisâr-Sâhib, J. n. 631.

between the Mæander and the hills of Taḡmák, which is a continuation of the extensive undulating plain between Góbek and Sejikler, is cut up by many deep and precipitous ravines, some of which are from 400 to 500 feet deep. Through two of these ravines, rivers flow into the Mæander, of which the Bânás-chái* is the most considerable. It rises at the S.W. foot of the high mountains near Kútáhiyah, called Morád Tāgh; the other is much smaller, and its course is more to the westward.

June 18.—After travelling all day over this plain, we reached a large village called Medereh Kõi, situated at the S.E. extremity of the plain, and distant by road eighteen hours from Kúlali nearly E.S.E. Very near this place, the Mæander, after winding through a chain of hills of mica-schist and saccharine highly crystalline limestone, which separates this large plain, which I think may possibly be the Cyri Campus,† from the Chál‡ district, enters the southern part of the plain, flowing through a rocky gorge, 600 or 700 feet deep.

The Chál district, through which I proceeded to Demirjî Kõi,§ the residence of the governor, is a rich and well-cultivated oval plain, watered by the Mæander: it measures about fourteen miles from N. to S., and four or five from E. to W. Its principal produce is the vine. The plain is entirely surrounded by high and steep hills, to which the ground of the valley rises gently all round, and it bears undoubted evidence of having been a large lake. The Mæander both enters and leaves this plain through very narrow ravines.

June 20.—Crossing the high hills which form the eastern boundary of this plain, I descended into another larger and more level plain, equally watered by the Mæander, at a higher level than the former; this plain, which extends the whole way to Isheklî,|| distant nine hours from Demirjî Kõi, my course being nearly N.E., is not improbably the Peltenus Campus. At its N.E. extremity, immediately behind Isheklî, rise the fine springs mentioned by Pocke, probably the ancient Glaucus, which at once form a considerable river, and flowing S.E., soon join the Mæander, flowing E.N.E. from Dineir. These two branches alone constitute the Mæander, or Menderez-sû, with the exception of a few small springs which rise at the foot of the high limestone-mountains, which extend the whole way between Isheklî and Dineir. The Obrimas, as marked in Cramer's map, does not exist.

June 22.—Crossing another high range of mountains, and

* River of Bânás.

† Cyri campus.—Cramer, ii. 22.

‡ Chál. J. n. p. 633.

§ Demirjî kõi, Blacksmith's village.

|| Isheklî kõi, cleft-town, or sheikhlú, i. e. Sheikh's town, J. n. p. 633.

partly ascending by the dry bed of a winter torrent, I reached the plain of Şandúklí,* the elevation of which above that of Ishiklí is very considerable. At Şandúklí itself are no remains of any importance, but in the centre of the plain the road passes through the undoubted ruins of an ancient town, situated eight miles south of Şandúklí. The remains consist of straight lines of the foundations of houses marking the lines of streets, and built of large blocks of stone; also part of a wall round the Acropolis, which stands on a low hill, in the rocky sides of which a few tombs are excavated, one of which had a Greek inscription. I also saw a few more sepulchral monuments in the burial ground of the village, which is built up among the ruins, but none of the inscriptions throw any light on the ancient name of the town.

From Şandúklí I crossed over a succession of high mountain-ridges, and passed through several perfectly flat alluvial plains, surrounded by the mountains, till I reached Afiyún Kará-hişár, situated in latitude 38° 44'. One of the most remarkable physical features of this part of the country is this constant succession of level plains, completely surrounded by high mountain-ridges, and bearing such strong evidence of having formed large lakes or inland seas at some very distant period.

June 24.—Started from Afiyún Kará-hişár for Kóniyeh.† This road has been described by so many travellers, that I need not enter into many particulars; but there are some points of which the geography still requires much correction.

Between Afiyún Kará-hişár and Bólávádín,‡ which latter place I did not visit, are remains of several ruined towns on the hill-side to the north of the plain; but although they contain fragments of marble columns, broken sarcophagi, and mutilated fragments of inscriptions, it is difficult to say whether they can safely be assigned to an earlier period than the Turkish conquests.

At I'ghún§ the lake, supposed to be that of the forty martyrs, and which, in Colonel Leake's map,¶ is called Trogitis, and is placed E.N.E. of the town, is, in truth, three or four miles to the N. by W. Ak-shehr|| is Philomelium; and I much doubt whether I'ghún be on the site of any ancient town.

The Turkish burial-grounds of Khánúm khánah,¶ and walls of the khán, are full of numerous inscriptions, chiefly sepulchral, and either themselves mark the site of an ancient town, or are derived from a site which I visited in the hills to the south, about six miles off, where I found the ruins of an ancient castle,

* Şandúklí, Trunk-town, J. n. p. 641.

† Kóniyeh (Iconium), J. n. p. 615.

‡ Bólávádín, J. n. p. 631, 671. § I'ghún, J. n. p. 619. I'ghín, Ibid. p. 671.

|| Ak-shehr, White-town, J. n. p. 619.

¶ Khánúm khánah, Lady's House.

crowning the summit of a lofty hill, which may have been an Acropolis, and among the stones of which were several inscriptions, which resemble, both in character and appearance, those at Khánım khánah.

At Ládík,* the ancient Laodicea Combusta, are also numerous inscriptions, but chiefly sepulchral. It has been supposed that this town received its appellation of Combusta from the volcanic nature of the surrounding country, in the same way as the Katakecaumené: this is, however, a mistake, as all the mountains, which almost surround the town, consist of a blue semi-crystalline limestone, and a few associated beds of shale and schist.

On the 29th of June I reached Kóniyeh, the ancient Iconium, in latitude $37^{\circ} 56' 30''$. The mean of the barometer during several days was 26'400 in.; the weather oppressive, with constant thunder storms. From thence I intended to strike due north for the salt lake† of Kóch-hisár.‡ I had in vain attempted to leave the high road for that place at Afyún Kará-hisar, Akshehr, and I'ghún, having everywhere found it impossible at this season of the year, when, I was told, the springs across the intervening country were dried up, and the nomade tribes had left the plains for their summer residences in the mountains to the north and east. At Kóniyeh I found the same difficulties, and was obliged to go from thence to Kará-buñár,§ on the road to Ereglí; thence strike north to Ak-serái, and from thence north-west to Kóch-hisár.

I may here mention, that the high-peaked mountain which Colonel Leake saw from near Kóniyeh, and believed to be Mount Argæus, cannot be that mountain, but is the summit of Hasan Tâgh, situated eighteen miles S.S.E. of Ak-serái, and presenting an appearance very similar to that of Argæus.

At Kará-buñár I left the great Hajj, or Pilgrim road, which leads from Iconium to Ereglí and Tarsus, and proceeded nearly N. by E. sixteen hours to Ak-serái. I may observe, that when I crossed it, the great plain to the eastward of Kóniyeh was perfectly dry; but in winter it is flooded and impassable. The route, therefore, is then along the foot of the hills to the north. I was much struck with the remarkable appearance of the *mirage* in crossing this flat plain. Several times we thought ourselves on the very borders of a lake, which appeared not half a mile off; and on the surface of which I saw the reflection of the distant

* Lázikiyehi karamán, also called Yúrugán Ládík (J. n. p. 616), i. e. Ládhişyeh (Laodicea) of the country of Karamán, or the Gipsies' Ládík.

† Memlişah, or Túzlah.

‡ Kóch-hisár, or Champion-Ram castle, J. n. p. 620, 626, 646.

§ Or Karah-buñár, Black Spring, J. n. p. 616.

mountains, but the whole appearance vanished as we approached. I always, however, found that some slight irregularity of ground was necessary to produce the appearance, and also that the hills which bounded the horizon must be very low. *Karâ-bûnâr* is undoubtedly upon the site of *Baraté*, of the *Itineraries*, which I am inclined to look upon as a corruption of *Barathra*—a name derived from the deep volcanic craters or pits which surround the town. The town of *Karâ-bûnâr* was completely abandoned, except by the *Menzilji** and his people; the inhabitants had all gone off to their summer quarters in the mountains, for the sake of pasture for their flocks and herds, and to avoid the plague of gnats, which made their town almost uninhabitable.

Ak-serâi,† in lat. 38° 20' N., is situated in an open and well-cultivated valley, through which a small stream called the *Beyâz şû*‡ flows into the salt lake of *Kôch-îşar*. *Madder* is grown in great quantities in its neighbourhood; and I also saw a few fields of rye (*châvdâr*).

July 8.—I made an excursion to some interesting ruins about eighteen miles S.E. of *Ak-serâi*, at the foot of *Hasan Tâgh*, and on the road from *Ak-serâi* to *Bôr*,§ or *Tyana*. If *Ak-serâi* is *Archelais*, it is probable that these ruins are the remains of *Nazianzus*. The place is called *Vîrân-shehr*|| or *Yûrân-shehr* (ruined town), and is situated on a rocky platform immediately above some fine copious springs, which form a long and deep lake, out of which flows a small river, which joins the *Beyâz şû* of *Ak-serâi*, and also falls into the Salt lake.

The streets and houses of a great part of the town are still standing, the walls in some places being twenty or thirty feet high, entirely composed of rough cyclopean blocks, without any cement or mortar. The walls of the *Acropolis* may be distinctly traced, besides some curious vaulted buildings of more regular masonry. The tombs, which are very numerous, are generally better built, and more in the *Hellenic* style. Those which I entered had usually two rows of stone benches round them for receiving the dead bodies, and in one I found several human bones. Besides these buildings, I saw the ruins of three *Byzantine* churches of very ancient and rude construction, but evidently of a much more recent age than the rest of the town, being built with a good deal of mortar and small rubbly stones.

July 11.—I started from *Ak-serâi* for *Kôch-îşar*, along the plain, following the course of the *Beyâz şû*, about sixteen miles the first day, nearly W.N.W. A short way farther on, the river

* Innkeeper.

† White water.

‡ White Palace, J. n. p. 620.

§ *Bôr*, J. n. p. 617.

|| *Yûrân* is a corruption of the Persian word *Vîrân* or *Uîrân*. *Bel-vîrân*, J. n. p. 617.

becomes salt, and on the following day we could find no fresh water until we reached Kóch-hişár, about thirty-two miles N.W. by N., and situated in latitude 38° 54' N.

The Salt lake* begins about five miles to the west of Kóch-hişár, and is said to be thirty leagues in circumference. The remains of the causeway which was built across an arm of it by Sultán Selím, are nearly concealed under an incrustation of salt; and at the spot where I reached the shore, the bed of the lake consists of a thick crust of solid salt. The salt itself is a government monopoly, and is farmed by Hájí 'Alí Páshá of Kóniyeh, for twenty-six purses a year (135*l.*), who sells it again for about thirty-four purses (177*l.*). The salt is collected at only four places round the lake, at each of which a receiver is stationed. The Turks who come for it, pay forty párahs,† equal to 1 piastre, or not quite 2½*d.*, for an 'arabah or cart-load drawn by two oxen; 10 párahs for a horse, mule, or camel-load; and 6 párahs for an ass-load.

The water of this lake is so extremely salt that no fish or other animals can live in it: birds dare not even touch the water,—their wings become instantly stiff with a thick crust of salt; and anything thrown into the lake is soon covered with that substance.

July 14.—Started for Cæsarea. The country, more hilly and better watered for some distance, is only inhabited by Turkománs, who, although like Yúruks‡ and Kurds, they live in tents during the summer, have generally fixed villages for their winter quarters. They are by far the most numerous and most civilised of the nomade tribes of Asia Minor. The Yúruks live in tents all the year round, but dwell almost exclusively in the mountains; and when in the neighbourhood of large towns, generally act as charcoal-burners, and supply the inhabitants of the town with that article: they, as well as the Turkománs, sometimes cultivate a little ground. The Kurds differ much in manners and in language§ from the two last tribes. They are a more wealthy, independent people, and live entirely in tents. They dwell on the eastern flanks of Mount Argæus and in the great plain of the Háimáneh,|| towards Angora.

July 16.—Reached Tátlar, a remarkably-situated village in a deep ravine of white, sandy, volcanic tuff, the steep sides of which are, in places, covered with large fragments of black basalt, with which the flat summit of the hill is capped. Many curious caves, and even modern dwellings, are excavated in this soft sand, in

* Túzlah, *i. e.* Saltern, in Turkish; Memlihah, in Arabic.

† Though spelt párah, *i. e.* "piece," this word is pronounced *pará*.

‡ Wanderers, from yúrumeK, "to march about."

§ The Kurds speak an ancient Persian dialect; the Yúruk and Turkománs, Turkish.

|| Háyimáneh, J. n. 620, 644.

which many of the inhabitants now dwell. Some of them appear to have been ancient tombs, others are evidently chapels of the earliest Greeks, and may perhaps have served as places of refuge during the persecutions in the early ages of Christianity. In one of them I found a curious old Greek manuscript, much worn and damaged, respecting which the Turks had told me many strange and marvellous tales.

July 18.—I left Nembshehr,* and passed through U'ch-hisár† and Urgúb,‡ near both which places, I was much struck with the remarkable conical and pointed hills, varying from 1 to 300 feet in height, which may be said almost to fill the valleys, they are so close and numerous wedged together.§ Most of them are excavated either as ancient Greek tombs or chapels of the early Byzantine period, or serve as modern houses and dove-cotes. Many entire villages are built among them. The only tree which grows upon this pumiceous soil is the apricot, which appears to be indigenous, and grows in great quantities. Some of the varieties of the fruit, although small, are very high-flavoured.

From Urgúb I ascended several miles, nearly due east, up a deep and narrow ravine watered by a small stream, on each side of which, were rich and well-cultivated gardens and orchards, extending as high up the hills on each side as they could carry a supply of water, which everywhere marks the limit of cultivation in this part of Asia Minor.

July 19.—At 5 A.M. I left Baktaşh, which is called half-way between Nemb-shehr and Cæsarea, or Kaishariyeh, the whole distance being computed at eighteen hours or fifty-four miles. Leaving the valley, which I had followed up from Urgúb, I crossed a high ridge of volcanic sand-hills capped with basalt, and descended upon Injú-sú,|| from whence, winding round the N.W. foot of Argæus, I reached Cæsarea soon after 3 P.M. Six miles to the westward of Cæsarea, and in the plain at the foot of Mount Argæus, is a small lake abounding in fish and water-fowl, from which all the maps, except Major Rennell's, make a river flow into the Euphrates, passing either to the north or south of Cæsarea. This is quite wrong. A considerable river falls into the north end of this lake, flowing through a rich and well cultivated plain from the north-east, and the river which issues from it flows through a deep and narrow valley to the W.N.W., and falls into the Halys. It is called the Kārâ-sû, or Black-water, and is undoubtedly the Melas of Strabo, which

* Nemb or Neb-shehr, a corruption of Nev, Neú, or Nau-shehr (New-town).

† U'ch-hisár, Three castles.

‡ Urgúb, J. n. 617.

§ The description of these conical hills given by Paul Lucas is not in the least exaggerated.—A.

|| Injú sú, Pearl-water. Injú is often pronounced Injí.

was dammed up by King Ariarathes, and which, on the bursting of the dyke, flooded the lands of the Galatians by causing the Halys to overflow its banks, and for which damage the King was condemned by the Romans to indemnify the Galatians. Strabo, or some one of his copyists, has evidently written Euphrates instead of Halys, by mistake, for how could the rising of the Euphrates have flooded the lands of the Galatians?

The heat at Cæsarea was very great while I was there, from the 19th to the 26th July, the thermometer in-doors generally averaging 86°—88° Fahr., notwithstanding its elevation above the sea, which is about 4200 feet. The barometer varied during my stay there from 25.568 in. to 25.328 in., and at Smyrna during the same time from 29.986 in. to 29.820 in., without corrections. The boiling point of water was 204°. 45. Cæsarea is situated in lat. 38° 42'.

July 27.—After many inquiries and contradictory reports as to the easiest side for ascending Mount Argæus, and having satisfied myself that this could only be done from the southern side, and that Everek-köi, a large village at the S.E. foot of Argæus, was the only place where I had any chance of procuring guides, I started from Cæsarea, and halted for the night at the Greek convent, where I obtained much curious geographical information from the monks and the bishop, or despotes,* and reports of many ruins existing to the east and south-east of Cæsarea, but in a wild, inhospitable, and mountainous country, nominally under Ibráhím Páshá; all the inhabitants of which are reported to be robbers, and who often make incursions into the Turkish territory, and carry off the cattle of the more peaceable inhabitants of the plains. This convent is ten miles E.S.E. from Cæsarea, and about 1000 feet above the plain.

July 28.—My journey this day was round the eastern side of Mount Argæus. On this side, the mountain does not rise at once from the plain, as on the other sides, but is connected by rugged hills, with several lower ranges of mountains, which stretch away far to the eastward. I reached Everek-köi in the evening, after eight hours' journey, and with the assistance of the governor (who lodged me in his own house, and gave me every facility in his power for effecting my purpose of ascending the mountain), soon found some Armenians who said they knew the way up the ridge, which forms, as I had seen on this day's journey, the lip of a large and extinct crater, but added that they had never been to the summit.

July 29.—With my Armenian guides and some Turkish

* Dhespótis, Δεσπότης.

guards, whom the governor insisted on my taking, and my interpreter, I started for the mountain early this morning. It rises up almost to a single peak from a broad and extended base, consisting entirely of volcanic rocks and scoriaceous cinders of different kinds. Its sloping sides are studded all round with numerous cones and craters, the effects of volcanic action at different periods. Near the foot of the mountain is a little cultivation, but a few solitary wild pear-trees or stunted oak-coppice are the only trees upon it. Its appearance is, therefore, peculiarly barren and rugged, which, added to the black and cindery nature of its rocks, gives it a wild and inhospitable look. I was unable to reach the summit this evening, and indeed there is considerable danger in ascending the steep part of the cone after the sun has thawed the surface of the sloping sides, when large masses of rock are detached, and roll down the ravines or over the snow. We halted for the night under a projecting rock, where I found a hollow space just big enough for me to lie down in, while my followers accommodated themselves beneath a similar one. This was at the foot of the snow; indeed we had left several patches of it in the ravine below us, and a cold place it was during the night. The thermometer at 6 P.M. stood at 47° ; the barometer at 20.198 inches; indicating a height of about 10,300 feet as the lowest limit of the snow line, in the parallel of $38\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, N.

July 30.—5 A.M. Bar. 20.246.; ther. 35° : det. ther. 33° Fahr. Such was the dilatoriness of my Turks and Armenians, that the sun was well above the horizon before we started, notwithstanding the absolute necessity which they said existed for our being up before the ground thawed. After half an hour's walking up a steep, inclined plain, at an angle of 15° — 20° , we reached the snow, which continued unbroken to the summit. On this southern side several sharp ridges rise through the snow, over which we contrived to climb, occasionally crossing the intervening ravines of snow, where, as the warmth of the sun was felt and thawed the surface, many masses of rock, detached from the soil by the melting of the ice, came bounding past us at a most rapid rate. This is the only danger attending the ascent of the mountain. Two hours' more very steep walking and climbing brought us to the summit. This consists of a narrow ridge, the highest point of which is nearly the point of junction of two large and contiguous craters, both of which are broken down on the north side. The snow in them is very deep and unbroken, and descends much lower than on the southern flank, forming extensive glaciers, resembling those of Switzerland; but such is the porous nature of the rocks and soil, that, however fast the snow melts, no streams of water flow down the sides of the mountain, but are all

instantly absorbed. The bar. on the summit was just below 18 inches, and the ther. 40° Fahr. This gives a height of 13,300 feet, which I believe to be nearly correct, as it agrees very closely with the result of two angles of elevation taken from different spots below the mountain; one of which, taken from the Greek convent (the height of which, calculated by the barom., is 5200 feet above the sea), makes the height of the mountain 13,242; and the other, taken from *Karâ-hişâr* (the height of which, measured by the barom., is 4300 feet above the sea), makes the whole height of the mountain 12,809 feet.

Taking a mean of these three observations, we shall not be far wrong in estimating the height of this celebrated mountain at 13,100 feet above the sea.

At the spot where we spent the night, scarcely any vegetation was to be seen: a few small stunted Alpine plants grew among the stones, and I found one small plant, with a flower resembling the thistle, but growing low and spreading, and the leaves smelling strongly of musk, which, the Turks declared, was found nowhere else. They ascribed some rare medicinal virtues to it.

I was disappointed in my expectation of a distant view. The day was hazy, and a sea of clouds floated far below us, obscuring the surrounding country from our sight, except when high ranges of hills appeared, like islands above the waving clouds; consequently I was unable to take many angles or bearings of distant places.

Descending from the mountain I found, near the edge of the plain, the ruins of a town, which, at some period of the Byzantine empire, must have been of considerable importance, to judge from the remains of several old Greek churches, columns, and tombs which appear on the hill-side near the modern village of *Gerameh*. Returning from these ruins to *Everek-köi*, we had a narrow escape from a large band of well-mounted Kurds, returning from a predatory excursion, whom we saw descending from the mountain-side at full gallop, and driving before them across the plain large herds of beasts and cattle which they had just been plundering.

July 31.—From *Everek-köi* to *Karâ-hişâr*, eight hours, across a flat plain, wet and marshy in places, and which is almost entirely under water in winter. At *Karâ-hişâr* I found no antiquities; but on the following day, August 1, I made an excursion about eight miles to the westward to some ruins, called *Sowânli Dereh*, where I found a very remarkable valley, the steep and almost perpendicular sides of which were, for nearly two miles, excavated into an immense number of chambers, grottoes, dwelling-houses, tombs, and chapels of the Byzantine age. From its

position and similarity of name, I have no doubt it occupies the site of the ancient Soandus, which is mentioned by Strabo (xiv. p. 663) as on the great road from Phrygia through Lycaonia, to the capital of Cappadocia.

August 2.—Starting from Kará-hisár, I proceeded along the usual road to Nígdeh, Bór, Kilísá Hisár, and Ereglí, and reached Misli* in five hours, at nearly eight the same evening.

August 3.—I left Misli early for Nígdeh, five hours, S. S. W. Misli is a small village of Greeks, subject to the Bishop of Nígdeh, and quite independent of the Turkish authorities. They pay no taxes to the government, in lieu of which they formerly worked the lead-mines of Ma'den Tágh, about six hours off, E. by S. Now, however, they pay their contributions to these mines, instead of working them, and the miners are procured from Gúmish-khánah, between Trebizond and Erz-rúm, the place which supplies most of the miners of Asia Minor. These Greeks of Misli never leave their village, and neither man nor woman is allowed to marry a stranger, or any one not belonging to the village.

Seven miles before reaching Nígdeh, some very copious springs rise in the low flat valley, and form a stream which flows through Nígdeh and Bór to the S.W. This stream serves to irrigate some rich meadows and gardens; and about five miles above Nígdeh to the N.N.E. is a place called Eskí Andavál, or Old Andavál. There now only remains a small Byzantine church, dedicated to St. Constantine; but the surrounding country at once strikes the traveller as being the spot alluded to by the author of the "Jerusalem Itinerary," in the words following Mansio Andavalis, sixteen miles from Sasima, and on the road to Tyana, from which last place the "Antonine Itinerary" gives it a distance of sixteen miles.† These words are—"Ibi est villa Pampali unde veniunt equi curules." The valley is most remarkable for its freshness and verdure. There is no other spot in the country more fitted to the breeding of horses; and here was probably the stud of Pampalus, or (as they are supposed by the critics to have been one and the same person) of the Palmatius, mentioned in the Glossæ Nomicæ of the Lower Empire, whose breed of horses, extensive landed property, and magnificent palace at Cæsarea nearly equalled the splendour of the Emperor Valerian. There is also a modern village of Andavál, about two miles off to the east of Nígdeh, amongst the mountains.

August 4.—Twelve miles S.S.W. of Nígdeh, I passed through the town of Bór, on the banks of the same river; and two miles

* Brazen or Brass-place.

† See Wesseling's Note to the "Jerusalem Itinerary," p. 577.—A.

farther south I reached the small village of Kiz-hisár, or Kilisá-hisár. The remains of antiquity in the village and its neighbourhood have long since made it probable that it is the site of Tyana; but no inscriptions have been found there which throw any light upon its ancient name. Nevertheless, one or two material features, which I observed in its vicinity, are so remarkable as to leave no doubt upon the subject.

One of these is the circumstance that the town is built upon a small rising mound or hill in the middle of the plain, which exactly corresponds with the description of Strabo, who says* that it was built upon the mound of Semiramis. It was in order to convey water to the summit of this hill that the aqueduct built apparently by the Romans, and which extends for several miles across the plain, from a rich and copious spring to the eastward, was originally intended. Numerous remains and foundations of ancient buildings exist amongst the walls of the small cottages upon this hill; and amongst others is part of the floor of an ancient Doric temple, with one slightly fluted column still standing *in situ*.

The other circumstance is the existence of a very singular lake in the plain about two miles south of the town, which answers to the description of the fountain of Asbamæus, recorded by Ammianus Marcellinus,† and by Philostratus in the life of Apollonius Tyaneus.‡

Ammianus says that there is a fountain which rises in a marshy plain near Tyana, which swells with the quantity of water, and again disappearing, never overflows its banks.

Philostratus says that near Tyana is the fountain of Asbamæus, sacred to Jupiter, which rises very cold, but it bubbles up exactly like a boiling cauldron.

The apparent discrepancy of these two accounts vanishes on seeing the real phenomenon, which perfectly bears out both descriptions. About two miles to the south of the village several small springs of brackish water rise, and a little way on is a small lake or pool, about thirty or forty feet in diameter, of turbid brackish water, which appears to be boiling up all over, but particularly in the centre, where a violent jet of water rises to a height of nearly a foot, and about a foot and a half in diameter, with considerable noise. Notwithstanding this quantity of water which is constantly boiling up, the lake never rises or overflows its banks, nor does any stream of water escape from it, although the ground around is perfectly flat. There is a slight smell of sulphuretted hydrogen gas around it; and I think it probable that the jet in the centre of the pool is partly caused by the escape of a large quantity of gas, and not solely by water.

* Τὰ δὲ Τύανα ἐπὶ κείνῃ τῇ χώματι Σεμυράμιδος τετελιχισμένον καλῶς. Lib. xii., p. 538.—A.
† A. Mar. lib. xxiii. c. vi.—A. ‡ Phil. de Vit. Apol. lib. i. c. 6.—A.

Another evidence of this being the site of Tyana may be found in the name of a low chain of hills to the north of the town, in which are several caves and tombs excavated, which hill is called Ifti'yáncas, or Ifti'yán-keler—the last syllable being perhaps a corruption of the Latin *castrum*, or the Arabic *kal'eh*.

August 6.—Between Ereglí or Erekli and the Bín-bir-kilísá,* on Kára-tágh (Black Mountain), there is a large swampy lake in the great plain, which appears to be a continuation of that of Kóniyeh. This plain is bounded on the south by a low chain of hills of secondary limestone, which stretches down from Mount Taurus; and in passing between these mountains and the lake, I was surprised to find a stream flowing to the south out of the lake, and escaping through a chasm or Katabothron at the foot of the cliffs, thus affording an outlet to the superabundant waters of this plain, which was not suspected to exist.

The stream was not very considerable when I passed it; but it was evident, from the wide bed of the torrent, and the unusual circumstance of the Turks having built a substantial bridge over it, that in winter and spring a very large quantity of water must escape by this subterranean channel.

I halted this night at an encampment of Turkománs, near the lake which is called Ak-Gól.† The winter residence of these Turkománs is at a village eight hours off to the south, called Devlí, which is probably the ancient Derbe, which we learn from Hierocles was called Delbia, from which the change to Devli is most simple—Delbia, Delbe, Delve, Devle. I was assured that no water is found within eight hours' journey of it at this time of year, which prevented my visiting it.

August 7.—On my way to Kára-dagh due west, I passed through the ruins of two ancient towns, one of which is marked by the many ancient tombs excavated in the rocks, on the side of one of which I found the remains of a Greek inscription; and the other by the numerous ancient blocks and broken columns of marble built into the walls of every cottage.

August 8.—Visited the ruins of the Bín-bir-kilísá on Kára-dagh. They are very extensive and interesting, covering a large space of ground; but, with the exception of the many large sarcophagi and tombs, resembling those of Hierapolis, appear to belong entirely to the early ages of Christianity. The ruins consist chiefly of the remains of Byzantine churches, evidently of great antiquity, and some of very considerable size. They are without exception built of the red and grey porphyritic trachyte of the neighbouring hills. I am inclined to attribute these ruins to Lystra, which we know was an Episcopal See under the Byzantine Emperors, which well accords with the existence of so many ruined churches;

* Bín-bir kilísá, i. e. 1001 Churches.

† Ak gól, White Lake.

the province situated below, or to the S. of the Caspian gates, contains low ground and valleys." It possesses an excellent soil, singularly fertile in all sorts of productions but the olive, which either does not exist, or is only found small and dry.*

It is evident that Strabo here alludes to two great geographical divisions of Media, each possessing physical features of a distinct and peculiar character. The northern division, in fact, or Media Atropatene, cold, steril, and mountainous, and the southern, or Media Magna, warm, fertile, and champaign; and the Ecbatana, therefore, which is made use of to illustrate the cold and mountainous regions of the North, must obviously be the capital of Media Atropatene. This description of Strabo, indeed, I regard as a mere amplification of the passage in Herodotus, which I have already quoted, and, as in that passage, the northern emplacement of the city is defined beyond a liability to mistake, by the indication of the Sapires and the Euxine sea: so in this, which is drawn from it, we must necessarily also infer an allusion to the same place, of which, however, it is more than probable, Strabo was himself unconscious. The mountains N. of Ecbatana, I conceive to be Sehend, Sevilán, and the many branches thrown off from the great Kurdistán range, or in some instances, perhaps, that range itself. It is needless to observe that there are no mountains whatever immediately to the N. of Hamadán. In two other passages I also recognise the same application to the northern Ecbatana, rather than to Hamadán. "Mount Abus," he says, "from which the Euphrates and Araxes flow, the one eastward and the other westward, is near the road that leads to Ecbatana, by the temple of Baris:"† and again in his quotation of the opinion of Polyclitus, regarding the floods of the Euphrates and Tigris, we find, "the highest mountains are in the northern parts above Ecbatana; as they stretch towards the S., they diverge, extend themselves, and become much lower.‡ Nothing decisive can, of course, be drawn from either of these notices; but the Ecbatana route near Mount Abus, now called Bín Gól,§ would seem to allude to the high road by Báyzíd and Tabriz, which Antony followed to Phraaspa; and the high mountains N. of Ecbatana, in thus repeating the expression of Herodotus, can only be reasonably explained by a reference to the Atropatenian capital.

The last author, whom it is of any importance to notice, is

* Lib. xi. p. 525.

† Lib. xi. pp. 520, 531. This temple of Baris has sorely puzzled the heretics. I almost suspect that the passage τῆς βασιδος νῆαν, refers to the famous fire-temple in the Baris of Ecbatana, and that the expression is used to illustrate the site of the capital rather than of the line of road.

‡ Page 742.

§ Saint Martin, tom. i. p. 39, 43; lit. "the thousand lakes."

Ammianus Marcellinus. In describing Adiabene, or Assyria proper, he writes, that, "in this province, is the city Ninus, which formerly possessed the empire of Persia, still bearing the name of Ninus, the husband of Semiramis, formerly a most powerful monarch; and Ecbatana, and Arbela, and Gaugamela, where Alexander, after the various risks of war, crushed Darius in a successful battle."* Now, as Ammianus, accompanying the retreat of Jovian, actually marched by the confines of this province of Adiabene, his geographical evidence would naturally be expected to be almost of a decisive character; experience, however, has proved, that, except upon the immediate line of the Roman military operations, his indications are of little value. In his general Asiatic geography, the servility with which he has copied from Ptolemy is notorious; and, indeed, in all cases, I think beyond the sphere of his own personal observation, his pretended description of the Persian provinces will be found nothing more than a bare recapitulation of the great names of history. Thus, in the present instance, the defeat and flight of Darius had united and immortalised the names of Gaugamela, Arbela, and Ecbatana; and, as Ammianus must have been aware that the city, where the fugitive Darius had first attempted to rally his broken troops after the battle, could not possibly be represented by the remote position of Isfahán, which he had been erroneously led to identify with the Ecbatana of Media Magna, he seems with a nearer approach to truth than might have been expected, to have imagined an Ecbatana in the Kurdish mountains to suit the historical indication. I cannot of course suppose that he was at all aware of the real emplacement of this Ecbatana, to which Darius fled after the battle of Arbela; his assigning the city to Adiabene, and mentioning the Atropatenian capital under the name of Gazaca, are decisive against this; but still his distinction of the two Ecbatanas is very remarkable, and would seem to show that he felt the perplexity of the ancient notices, and had fortunately hit upon the only way in which they admitted of a rational explanation.

I have now concluded all the historical and geographical evidence which I consider in any way essential to the illustration of the Atropatenian Ecbatana. There are, it is true, many other passages in which it would be desirable to analyse and explain the obscurity of classical authors, which has arisen from a confusion of the two kingdoms of Media, and of their similarly-named capitals of Ecbatana; but, as I have already far exceeded the limits which I proposed in drawing up the present memoir, I shall reserve all other points of discussion for a future paper on

* Lib. xxiii. c. 6.

within the last three months, and the corn for many miles round the town remained uncut or uncarried. A more striking instance of the destroying character of this dreadful malady cannot be imagined, than this vast extent of uncut corn rotting on the ground, when you are told that not only there exists no one to claim it, but no one even to carry it away without a claim. The Governor might seize it as his own, but he could not find people to cut it, or carry it, or thrash it out. The very cattle have perished when tied up in the stables, because, when the owners were dead, there was no one either to feed them or to release them.

Under these circumstances, and hearing that the malady was raging with equal violence at Atáliyah, on the sea-coast, and throughout the intervening country, I determined to give up that part of my plan, and to return immediately to Smyrna by Ulúbúrlú (the site of the ancient Apollonia), Dineir, Ishekli, and Philadelphia; and, after a hurried journey, reached Smyrna on the 25th August.

XI.—*Considerations on the Political Geography and Geographical Nomenclature of Australia.* By Captain VETCH, Royal Engineers, F.R.S.

POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.—The extent and boundaries of empires, states, and provinces, and the still lower political divisions of the earth's surface, have but too generally arisen out of accidental circumstances, mere caprice, or have been determined by impure and interested motives; so that the want of wise design and systematic arrangement in this department of politics is as manifest as it is unfortunate: for if we consider these divisions and subdivisions of States to be the organs and channels of government and links of social institutions, their defects cannot but prove highly detrimental to the true and complete administration of the laws, the peace and prosperity of the people.

It is indeed true that circumstances in many cases exist to prevent the establishment of political divisions on principle and system, but it must also be admitted that, in other cases, where neither difficulties nor obstacles presented themselves, the introduction of order has been equally neglected, and the omission not unfrequently only begins to be lamented when the measure is no longer practicable: much labour, expense, and trouble have then to be bestowed to remedy or palliate defects which a timely organization would have entirely obviated.

In no division of the globe could a system of political geography be introduced with so much ease, or with so many prospective ad-